



Biology Masters program at the College of William and Mary

The Biology department at the College of William and Mary is recruiting new Masters students in developmental biology, to start in Fall 2009.

We offer a two-year research-intensive Master's program wherein students are supported by teaching assistantships and full tuition waivers. For many students, getting a Master's in two years and having some publications and grants before applying to a top-flight Ph.D. program is a very viable option. I would greatly appreciate it if you circulated this message to any talented senior undergraduates that you know are thinking about graduate schools but may not be ready to apply to a high-profile Ph.D. program.

With a low student to faculty ratio (approximately 8-10 new students each year with 23 full-time faculty), we can offer an intimate and highly personalized research and education experience rarely attainable at larger universities. Also, our graduate students often work closely with and mentor undergraduates, offering numerous informal teaching and personal development opportunities.

Although our program is small, we have a real strength in developmental biology. Some of our faculty and their interests are listed on the next page.

Most of our faculty have funding from NSF, NIH, HHMI and other organizations. Many of us are actively looking to take on new MS students next year. Please feel free to pass this message on to any students you think may be interested/suitable. They can get some general information about our program from the department website:

<http://www.wm.edu/biology/gradcurriculum.php>.





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Faculty Research Interests in Developmental Biology:

Eric L. Bradley, Professor; Ph.D., University of California Santa Barbara. Biomedical Imaging; *in vivo* monitoring of cell-molecular processes in mammary tumor development. Mechanisms of reproductive inhibition; role of the endocrine system in maintaining reversible infertility. elbrad@wm.edu

Eric Engstrom, Assistant Professor; Ph.D., Stanford University. Plant development and evolution of developmental processes. Establishment of leaf polarity. emengs@wm.edu

Margaret Saha, Professor; Ph.D., University of Virginia. Developmental neurobiology; molecular genetics of cell determination and patterning in the developing vertebrate nervous system, particularly genes regulating brain and vascular development. mssaha@wm.edu

Diane C. Shakes, Associate Professor; Ph.D., Johns Hopkins University. Cell and developmental biology; the interplay between cell cycle progression and cell differentiation during *C. elegans* gametogenesis. dcs Shak@wm.edu

Matthew Wawersik, Assistant Professor; Ph.D., The Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. Cell and developmental biology; molecular genetic analysis of germ cell sex determination and germline stem cell establishment. mjwawe@wm.edu

